



US005319542A

**United States Patent** [19]**King, Jr. et al.**[11] **Patent Number:** **5,319,542**[45] **Date of Patent:** **Jun. 7, 1994****[54] SYSTEM FOR ORDERING ITEMS USING AN ELECTRONIC CATALOGUE****[75] Inventors:** John E. King, Jr., Warrenton; John R. Nilsen, Reston, both of Va.**[73] Assignee:** International Business Machines Corporation, Armonk, N.Y.**[21] Appl. No.:** 589,353**[22] Filed:** Sep. 27, 1990**[51] Int. Cl.<sup>5</sup>** ..... G06F 15/22**[52] U.S. Cl.** ..... 364/401; 364/408**[58] Field of Search** ..... 364/401, 408, 406; 235/383; 379/90**[56] References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

3,899,775	8/1975	Larsen	340/172
4,799,156	1/1989	Shavit et al.	364/401
4,984,155	1/1991	Geire et al.	364/401
4,992,940	2/1991	Dworkin	364/401

*Primary Examiner*—Roy N. Envall, Jr.*Assistant Examiner*—Khai Tran*Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Jesse L. Abzug; Lauren C. Bruzzone**[57] ABSTRACT**

The disclosed system facilitates the user in electronically ordering items from suppliers. The system is comprised of an Electronic Catalogue and an Electronic Requisition facility. The Electronic Catalogue includes a Public Catalog and a Private Catalogue. The Public Catalog is stored on a publicly available database for access by customer/Requestors. The Private Catalogue is resident on a Customer's computer system and may contain unique pricing data based on pricing agreements. The Electronic Requisition facility is used by the Customer/Requestors to electronically create purchase requisitions based upon the information provided in the catalogues and route the requisitions through the appropriate approval process within the enterprise. Requisitions are then processed through the customer's procurement system and transmitted electronically as purchase orders to Suppliers.

**14 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets**